

# News Release



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## **Arkansas to Receive Up to \$2.3 Million for Disaster Relief in 28 Counties**

**LITTLE ROCK** — The U.S. Department of Labor awarded the Arkansas Department of Workforce Services a National Emergency Grant to support the creation of 100 temporary jobs for clean-up and recovery efforts underway in 28 counties that were affected by the severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds and flooding that occurred May 7, 2015, through June 15, 2015. The grant was approved for up to \$2,300,000, with \$740,000 to be released initially.

At the request of Gov. Asa Hutchinson, a major disaster declaration was issued in the state of Arkansas on June 26, 2015. This declaration made public assistance available for public property debris clean-up and the repair or replacement of public facilities damaged by the severe storms, tornadoes, straight-line winds and flooding that occurred in Clark, Crawford, Dallas, Franklin, Garland, Hempstead, Howard, Independence, Izard, Jefferson, Johnson, Lafayette, Little River, Logan, Madison, Marion, Miller, Montgomery, Nevada, Newton, Ouachita, Perry, Pike, Polk, Scott, Searcy, Sevier and Yell counties.

“Upon issuance of the declaration, we applied for this grant because we are committed to ensuring our communities have the resources they need to sustain and grow their economies,” said ADWS Director Daryl Bassett. “These funds will not only support our communities in their clean-up and recovery efforts, but also will provide temporary jobs for individuals in need of work.”

Funding will be allocated to the four Local Workforce Development Boards that serve the affected counties. The four boards include the Northwest, North Central, Southwest, and Western Local Workforce Development Boards.

National Emergency Grants are awarded based on a state’s ability to meet specific guidelines. For more information about this grant and ADWS’ role in disaster relief, please contact ADWS Discretionary Grants Coordinator Lisa Ferrell at 501.371.1024 or [Lisa.Ferrell@arkansas.gov](mailto:Lisa.Ferrell@arkansas.gov).

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